

LIMITS OF THE HUMAN LIFE CYCLE

JOHN HENRICK

Seattle, Washington

The cosmetology of clichés is commonly regarded as an art not so much black as dismal, comparable to the refurbishment of rubbish. Yet, when the underlying concept of the cliché is sufficiently fundamental and compelling, it is not unusual for a phrase that has grown contemptible through familiarity to be reconditioned in popular usage with the aid of such standard devices as metonymy, metaphor, alliteration and rhyme.

The following list illustrates both premiss and process. Starting with the basic expression *From Birth To Death*, it proceeds through the more common alternatives to a litany of less familiar paraphrases. No attempt was made to be exhaustive; the purpose is to be informative and educational. If its perusal induces the reader to provide an extension, it will have fulfilled both.

From birth to death
 From cradle to grave
 From womb to tomb
 From lust to dust
 From yearn to urn
 From erection to resurrection
 From incubation to incineration
 From copulation to cremation
 From asses to ashes
 From panting to planting
 From titter to litter
 From mommy to mummy
 From sperm to worm
 From crib to crypt
 From basket to casket
 From OB to obit
 From fun for all to funeral
 From orgasm to morgue has 'em
 From carry on to carrion
 From squall hearers to pall bearers
 From rolling in the hay to buying the farm